This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A network method performed by a Call Broker for establishing a voice call between text chat participants in a data network text chat session comprising

receiving a message from a first chat participant requesting the establishment of a voice call between ones of said chat participants, said message including information identifying a method of payment for said voice call,

sending a message to said first chat participant providing voice call session information and at least one authorization code,

receiving a message from a second of said chat participants requesting participation in said voice call and presenting said voice call session information and an authorization code, said voice call session information and authorization code being supplied to said second chat participant in a message in said chat session,

requesting call setup means to setup voice call links to each of a plurality of voice call participants comprising at least said first and second chat participants, at least one of said setup voice call links being a Voice over IP (VoIP) link, and

directing bridging means to bridge said setup voice call links.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1 further comrprising

receiving a message from at least a third of said chat participants requesting participation in said voice call and presenting said voice call session information and an authorization code, and

wherein said step of requesting setup of voice call links comprises requesting call setup means to setup voice call links to each of said first, second and at least a third of said chat participants, at least one of said setup voice call links being a voice over IP (VoIP) link.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said step of requesting call setup means to setup voice links comprises requesting a VoIP gateway to setup an IP link to at least one of said plurality of voice call participants.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 3 wherein said requesting a VoIP gateway to setup an IP link to at least one of said plurality of voice call participants comprises requesting said VoIP gateway to setup an IP link to at least one of said first or said at least a second chat participants.

Claims 5-6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (previously amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said information identifying a method of payment includes billing authorization information.

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Claim 8 (original):   The method of claim 7 wherein said billing authorization information comprises calling card account and PIN information.

Claim 9 (original):   The method of claim 7 wherein said billing authorization information comprises prepaid card account and PIN information.

Claim 10 (original):   The method of claim 1 wherein said message from said first chat participant comprises information identifying the maximum number of voice call participants.

Claim 11 (original):   The method of claim 1 wherein said data network text chat session is an Internet chat session to which at least said first and second chat participants are connected through Internet links originating at telephone subscriber lines, each of said Internet links being identified by a current IP address.

Claim 12 (original):   The method of claim 11 wherein said Internet links through which said at least first and second chat participants are connected are established through respective Internet Service Provider (ISP) access servers, said at least first and second chat participants having provided account and access authorization information to said respective ISP access servers during a login message process.

Claim 13 (original):   The method of claim 11 wherein at least said first chat participant additionally provides account and authorization information in a login message process with a VoIP gateway, said VoIP gateway maintaining information about the online status and current IP address of said at least said first chat participant.

Claim 14 (original):   The method of claim 13 wherein said call setup means requests that said VoIP gateway establish at least one of said voice call links.

Claim 15 (original):   The method of claim 14 wherein said VoIP gateway establishes said at least one IP link to respective ones of said voice call participants.

Claim 16 (original):   The method of claim 15 wherein an IP link established to said first chat participant uses said IP address of said first chat participant maintained at said VoIP gateway.

Claim 17 (original):   The method of claim 16 wherein at least one of said voice call links sought to be established to one of said voice call participants is a Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) link.

Claim 18 (original):   The method of claim 17 wherein at least one of said PSTN links is unavailable for establishing a PSTN link, the method further comprising

determining if the subscriber line portion of said unavailable PSTN link is in current use in an Internet session through a respective ISP access server,

forwarding said call to a network node having access to said Internet session indicating the arrival of an incoming voice call.

Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 18 wherein said network node is said respective ISP access server.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 18 wherein said network node is a VoIP gateway having current IP address information for the voice call participant whose subscriber line is in current use in said Internet session.

Claim 21 (original): The method of claim 18 wherein said determining is performed by reference to online status information stored at a network database.

Claim 22 (original): The method of claim 21 wherein said network database is maintained at said VoIP gateway.